

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

A NEW FANTAIL FROM THE CHATHAM ISLANDS.

BY OUTRAM BANGS.

Several years ago the Museum of Comparative Zoology received from Mr. H. H. Travers a collection made in Snares, Auckland, Chatham and Antipodes islands. It contained one skin of a *Rhipidura* from the Chathams (probably Mangare, though the label says merely Chatham Islands) that differs in several respects from New Zealand specimens of *Rhipidura flabillifera* (Gmel.).

As this island form appears to be unnamed it may be known as—

Rhipidura flabillifera penitus subsp. nov.

Type from the Chatham Islands, No. 39,984, Museum of Comparative Zoology, adult ♀. Collected by H. H. Travers.*

Characters.—Similar in general to true *R. flabillifera* (Gmel.) of New Zealand, but tail longer and larger—each rectrice wider; two central rectrices grayish or hoary black instead of brownish black and with a white stripe 3 mm. wide fringing the inner web for the apical half of the feather and joining the white tip which is more extensive.

Measurements.—Type adult ♀: wing, 76; tail, 99; culmen, 8.5; tarsus, 19.5. In a series of six skins of true *R. flabillifera* from New Zealand of which only two—a male and a female—had the sex determined by the collector, the wing varies in length from 70 to 75, and the tail from 91 to 94.

* Unfortunately the skins we had of Travers had no data other than locality and sex.